

SECTION II—CLAIMS

1.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) An article of manufacture, comprising:

a machine-readable medium that provides instructions, including instructions to:

process a received trigger signal communicated from a triggering device in response to a location of a component in an automated identification system;

capture multiple images of at least a portion of a surface of the component in response to the received trigger signal, the multiple images comprising a series of images including a first image and at least one subsequent image;

store the multiple images in a memory; and

process the multiple images to identify and read a symbol code, if any, contained within at least one or a combination of two or more of the multiple images.

19. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 18, wherein the instructions to capture multiple images include instructions to implement a user-specified delay prior to capture of the first image, the user-specified delay having a defined duration.

20. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein the defined duration equals zero.

21. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 18, wherein the instructions to capture multiple images include instructions to implement a user-specified interval following each image capture in the series of images, the user-specified interval having a defined duration.

22. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the defined duration equals zero.

23. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the defined duration of each user-specified interval is identical.

24. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the defined duration of each user-specified interval is distinct.
25. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 18, wherein the instructions to capture multiple images include instructions to switch between two or more sources configured to capture the multiple images.
26. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the instructions to switch between the two or more sources include instructions to switch from one source to another source in response to an occurrence of user-specified criteria.
27. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 26, wherein the user-specified criteria includes an image-capture-quantity parameter.
28. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 26, wherein the user-specified criteria includes a time parameter.
- 29.-45. (Canceled)
46. (New) A method comprising:
- receiving a trigger signal communicated from a triggering device in response to a location of a component in an automated identification system;
- capturing multiple images of at least a portion of a surface of the component in response to the trigger signal, the multiple images comprising a series of images including a first two-dimensional image and at least one subsequent two-dimensional image, wherein capturing the multiple images comprises capturing at least one of the multiple images via an external camera coupled to the image system.; and
- processing the multiple images to identify and read a symbol code, if any, contained within at least one or a combination of two or more of the multiple images.
47. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein capturing at least one of the multiple images via an external camera includes configuring the image system to receive an input from the external camera via switching to the external camera in response to user-specified criteria.

48. (New) The method of claim 47 wherein the user-specified criteria includes an image-capture-quantity parameter.
49. (New) The method of claim 47 wherein the user-specified criteria includes a time parameter.
50. (New) The method of claim 47 wherein capturing at least one of the multiple images via an external camera further includes configuring the image system to receive an input from an internal image sensor via switching to the internal image sensor in response to the user-specified criteria.
51. (New) An apparatus, comprising:
- an image sensor configured to capture multiple images of at least a portion of a surface of a component in response to a trigger signal in an automated identification system, the multiple images comprising a series of images including a first two-dimensional image and at least one subsequent two-dimensional image;
 - a memory, coupled to the image sensor, to store the multiple images;
 - a processor, coupled to the memory, to process the multiple images to identify and read a symbol code, if any, contained within at least one or a combination of two or more of the multiple images; and
 - an input/output interface coupled to the processor to receive the trigger signal, wherein the input/output interface is configured to:
 - communicate with an external camera, the external camera capable to capture at least one image of at least a portion of the surface of the component, and
 - receive a signal corresponding to the at least one image from the external camera.
52. (New) The apparatus of claim 51 wherein the input/output interface is further configured to communicate with a display to enable generation of a visual rendering of at least one of the multiple images on the display.

53. (New) The apparatus of claim 51 wherein the image sensor comprises a complimentary metal oxide semiconductor image sensor.
54. (New) A method, comprising:
- receiving a trigger signal communicated from a triggering device in response to a location of a component in an automated identification system;
 - capturing multiple two-dimensional images of at least a portion of a surface of the component in response to the trigger signal, the multiple two-dimensional images comprising a series of images including a first image and at least one subsequent image, wherein capturing the multiple two-dimensional images comprises capturing at least one of the multiple two-dimensional images via an external camera coupled to the image system; and
 - processing the multiple two-dimensional images to identify and read a symbol code, if any, contained within at least one or a combination of two or more of the multiple two-dimensional images.
55. (New) The method of claim 54 wherein capturing at least one of the multiple two-dimensional images via an external camera includes configuring the image system to receive an input from the external camera via switching to the external camera in response to user-specified criteria.
56. (New) The method of claim 54 wherein the user-specified criteria includes an image-capture-quantity parameter.
57. (New) The method of claim 54 wherein the user-specified criteria includes a time parameter.
58. (New) The method of claim 54 wherein capturing at least one of the multiple two-dimensional images via an external camera further includes configuring the image system to receive an input from an internal image sensor via switching to the internal image sensor in response to the user-specified criteria.

59. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

an image sensor configured to capture multiple two-dimensional images of at least a portion of a surface of a component in response to a trigger signal in an automated identification system, the multiple two-dimensional images comprising a series of images including a first image and at least one subsequent image;

a memory, coupled to the image sensor, to store the multiple images;

a processor, coupled to the memory, to process the multiple images to identify and read a symbol code, if any, contained within at least one or a combination of two or more of the multiple images; and

an input/output interface coupled to the processor to receive the trigger signal, wherein the input/output interface is configured to:

communicate with an external camera, the external camera capable to capture at least one image of at least a portion of the surface of the component, and

receive a signal corresponding to the at least one image from the external camera.

60. (New) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein the input/output interface is configured to communicate with a display to enable generation of a visual rendering of at least one of the multiple images on the display.

61. (New) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein the image sensor comprises a complimentary metal oxide semiconductor image sensor.